

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 13, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC 1029b) as anticipated by Gooch (US Patent 4,480,652). I analyzed the reference and agree with this rejection. I have rewritten the main Claim 1 by including into it all the limitations of Claims 2 and 3, and made objected Claims 4, 6, 7, 10-12 and 14 dependent on the new main claim.

CONCLUSION

For all the above reasons, the applicant submits that the specification and claims are now in proper form, and that the claims all define patentably over the prior art. Therefore, the applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action he respectfully solicits.

Conditional Request for Constructive Assistance

Applicant has made a diligent effort to amend the claims of this application so that they define novel structure, which is also unobvious. If, for any reason, the Examiner believes that the claims of this application are not yet in full condition for allowance, applicant respectfully requests his constructive assistance and suggestions pursuant to the spirit of MPEP § 2173.02 and § 707.07(j). This will enable the undersigned to place this application in fully allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings. The Examiner is authorized to make any needed minor corrections or changes.

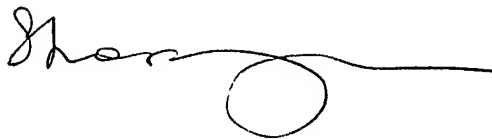
Very respectfully,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharapov', followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a large, stylized circular flourish.